

FIG. 1

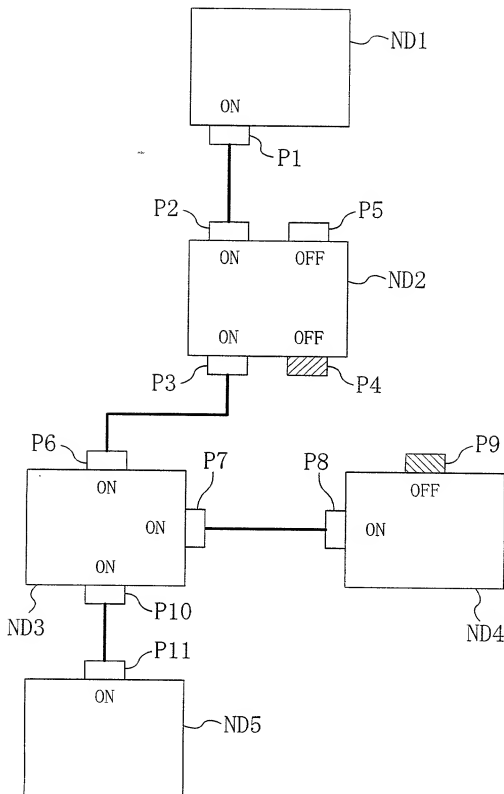


FIG. 2

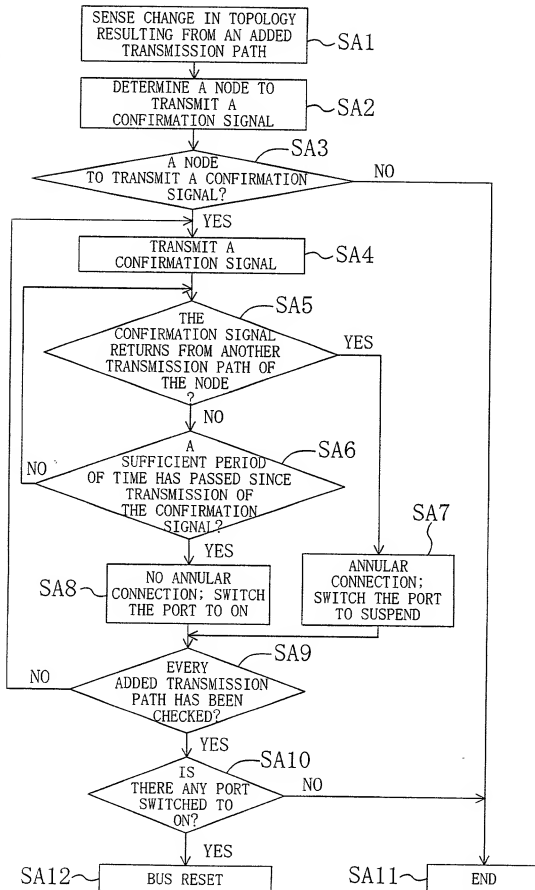


FIG. 3

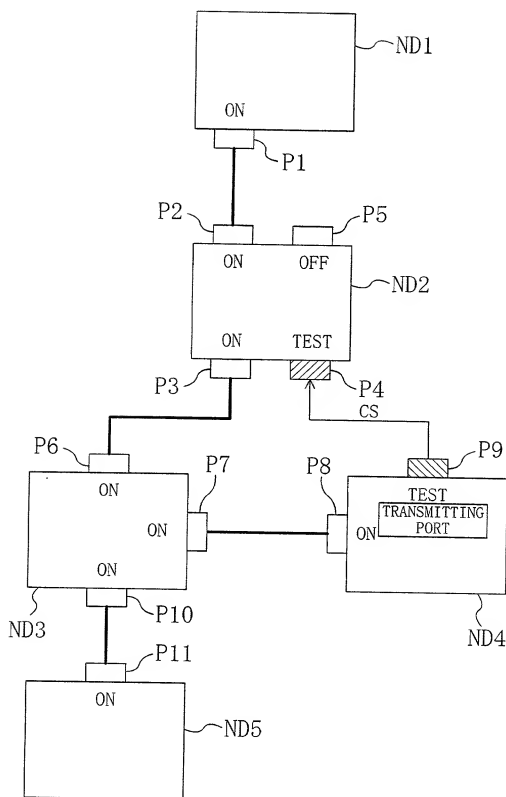


FIG. 4

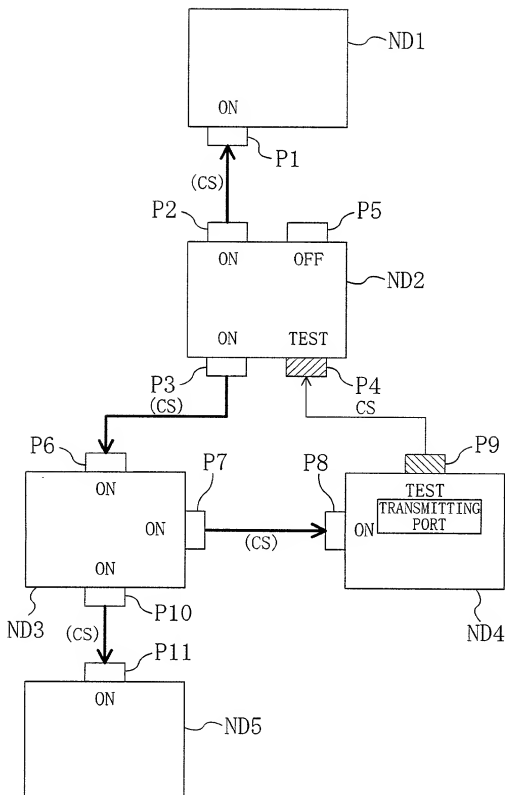
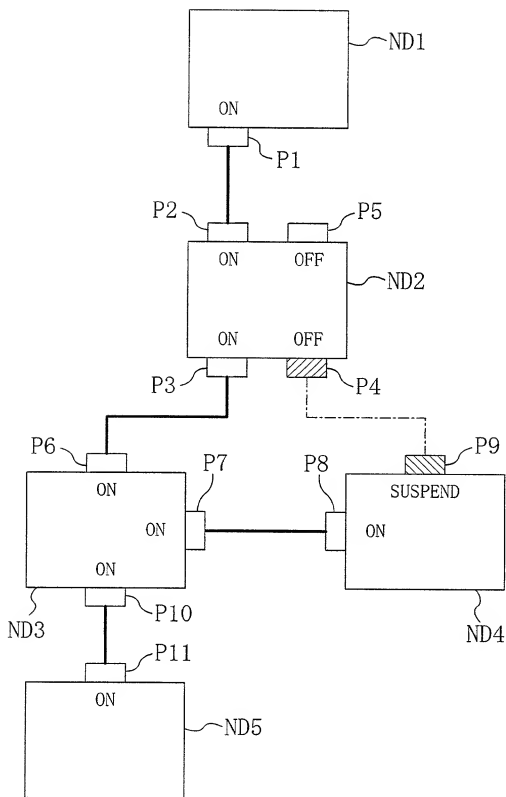


FIG. 5



# FIG. 6A

[A SMALL NUMBER OF COMMUNICATION NODES]

TIME →

WHEN BOTH NODES CONDUCT  
CONFIRMATION PROCESS



WHEN A NODE TO CONDUCT  
CONFIRMATION PROCESS IS  
SELECTED



# FIG. 6B

[A LARGE NUMBER OF COMMUNICATION NODES]

TIME →

WHEN BOTH NODES CONDUCT  
CONFIRMATION PROCESS



WHEN A NODE TO CONDUCT  
CONFIRMATION PROCESS IS  
SELECTED



CONFIRMATION PROCESS IN THE CASE WHERE THERE  
ARE A SMALL NUMBER OF COMMUNICATION NODES



CONFIRMATION PROCESS IN THE CASE WHERE THERE ARE  
A LARGE NUMBER OF COMMUNICATION NODES



PROCESS OF DETERMINING A COMMUNICATION NODE  
TO CONDUCT CONFIRMATION PROCESS

FIG. 7

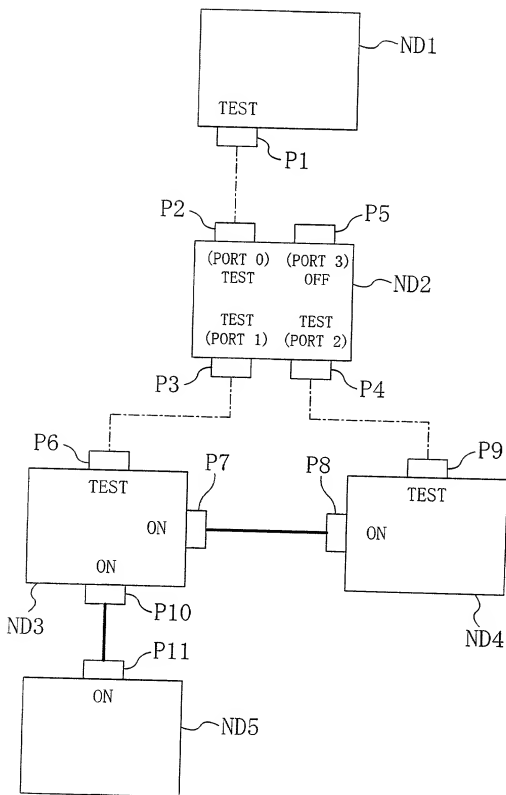
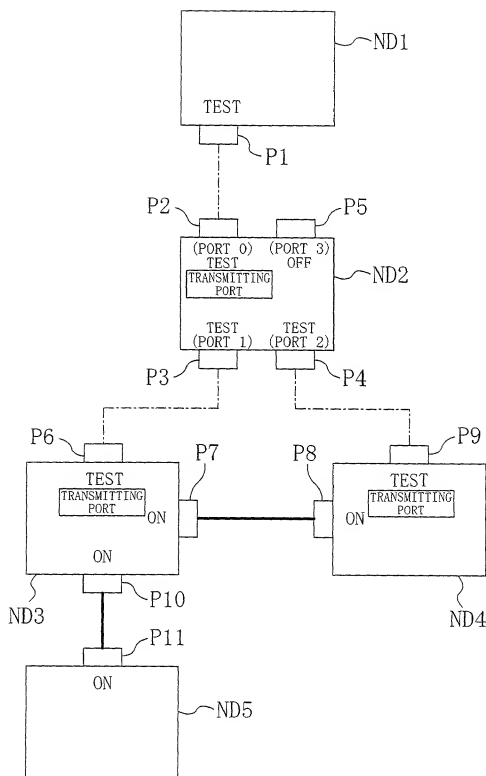


FIG. 8



1001063.120504



FIG. 9

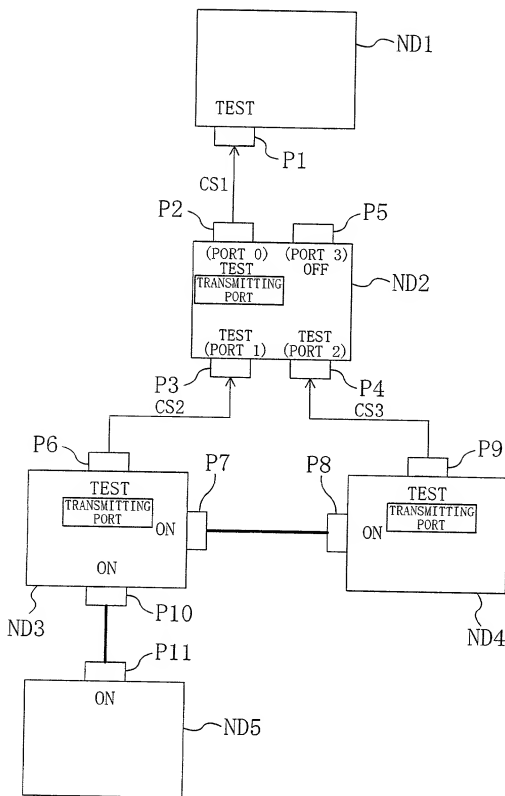


FIG. 10

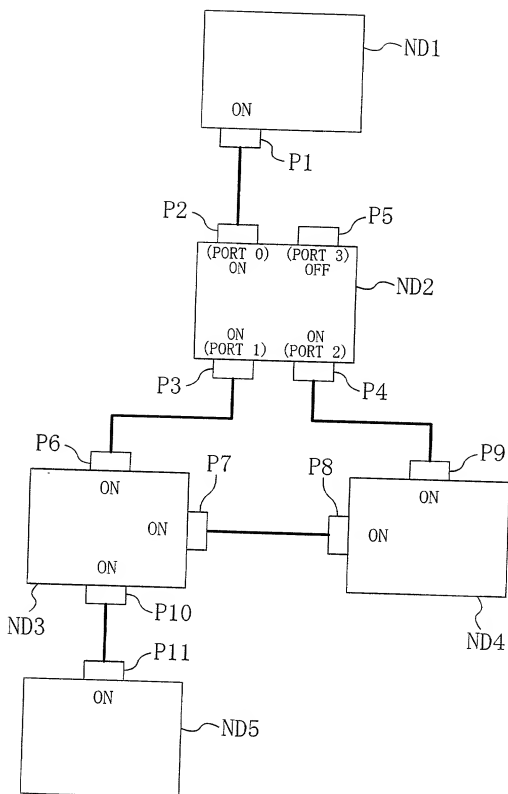


FIG. 11

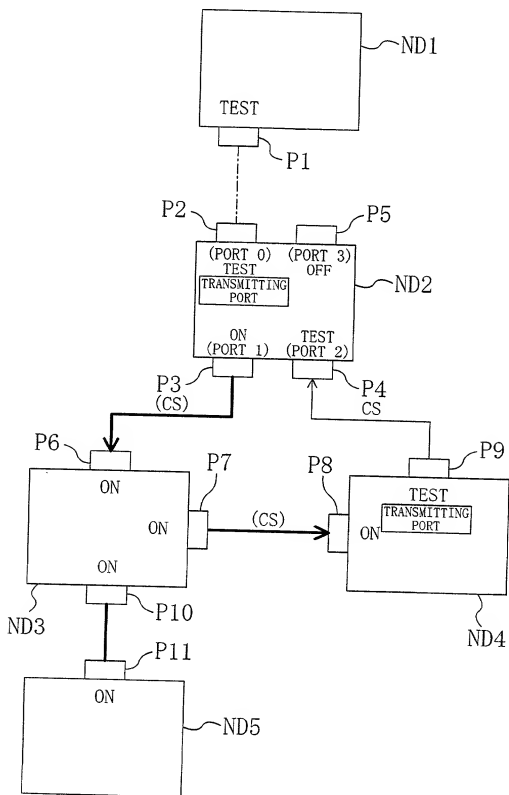
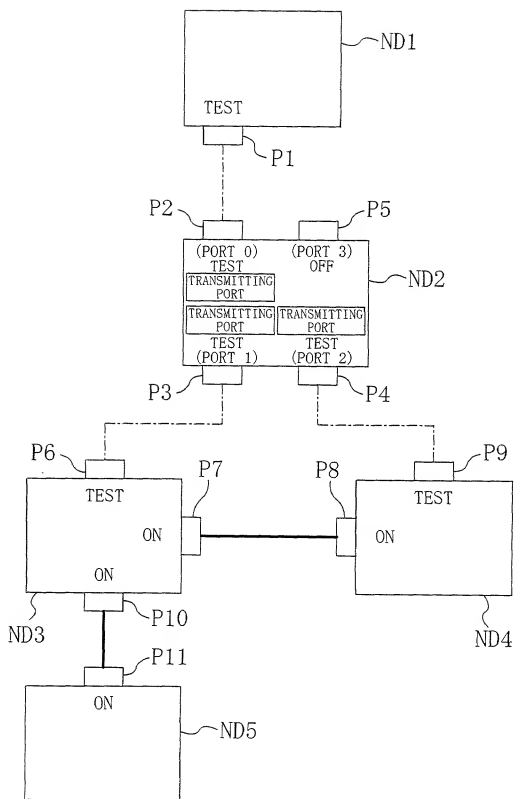


FIG. 12



10001968.120501

FIG. 13

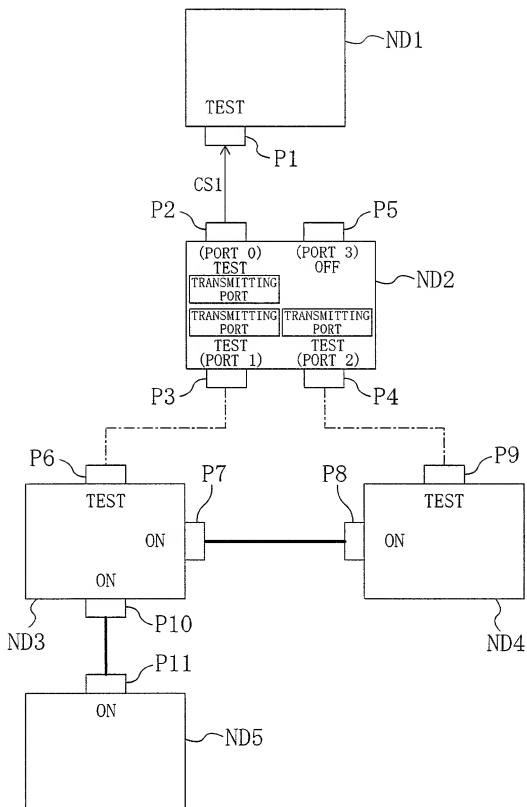


FIG. 14

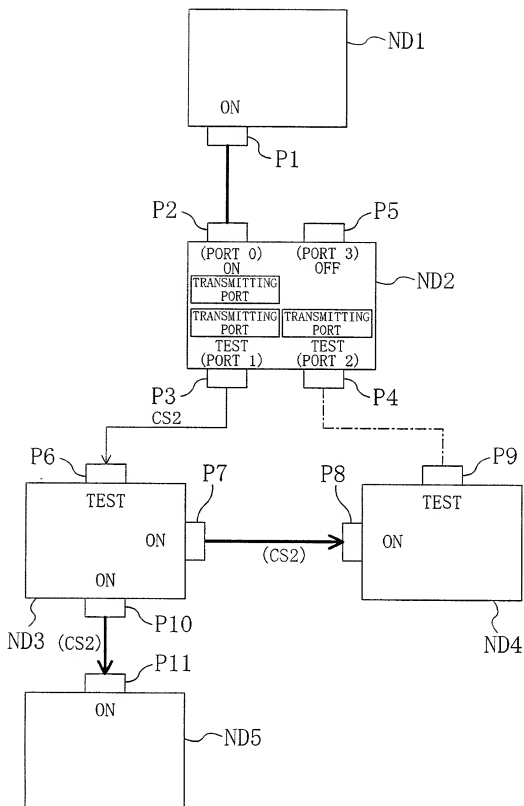


FIG. 15

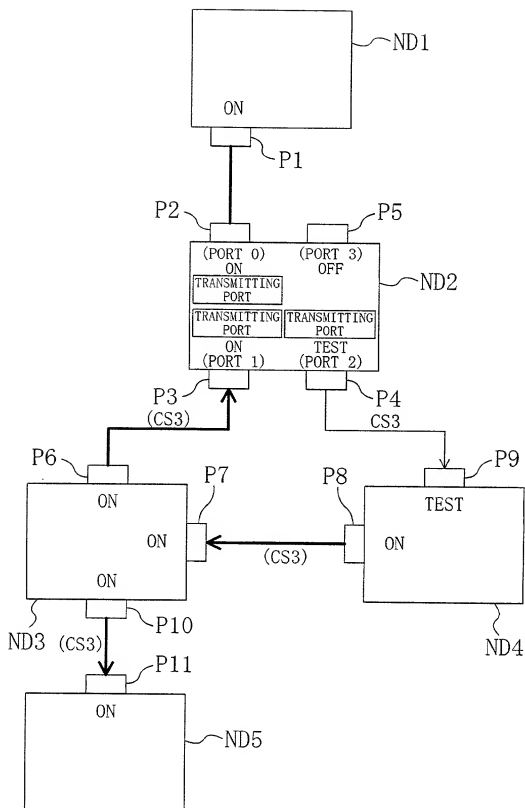


FIG. 16

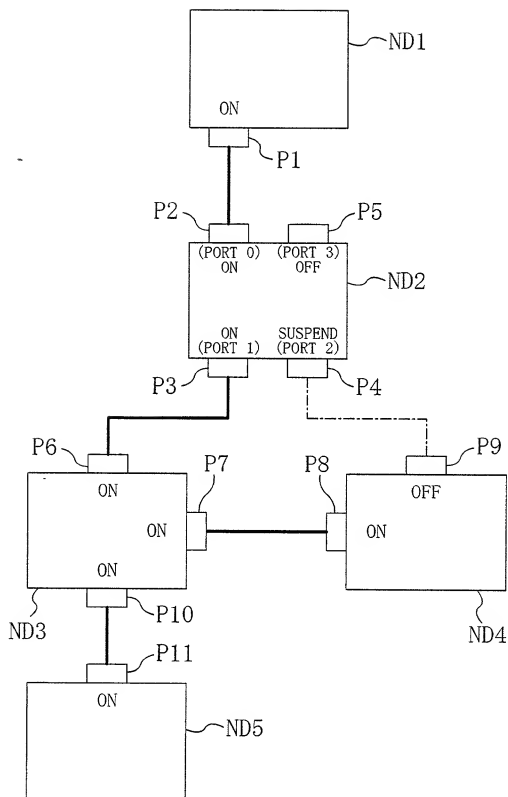




FIG. 17

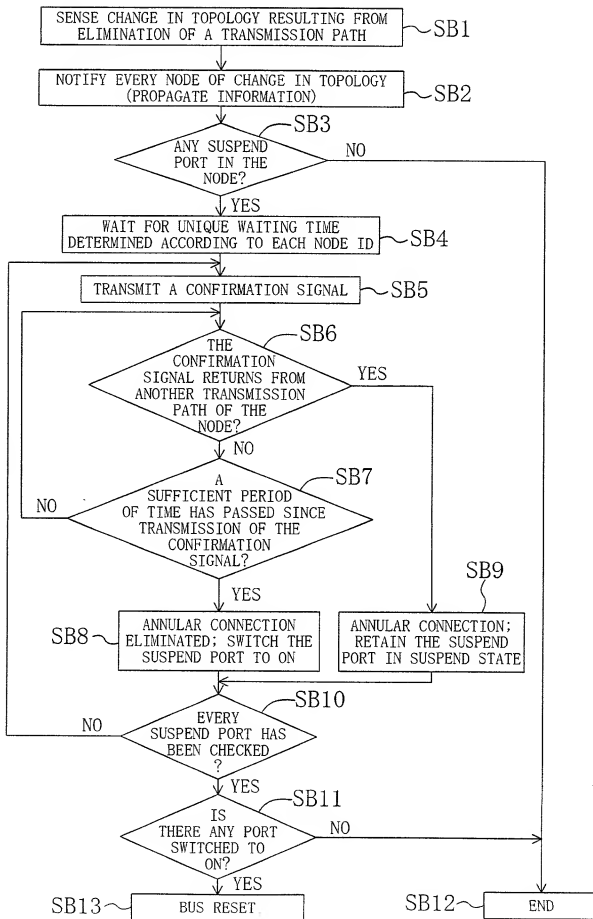


FIG. 18

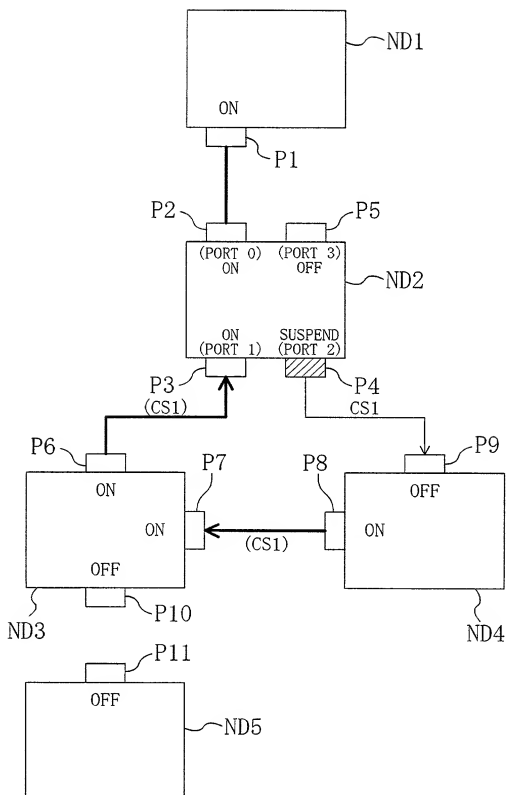


FIG. 19

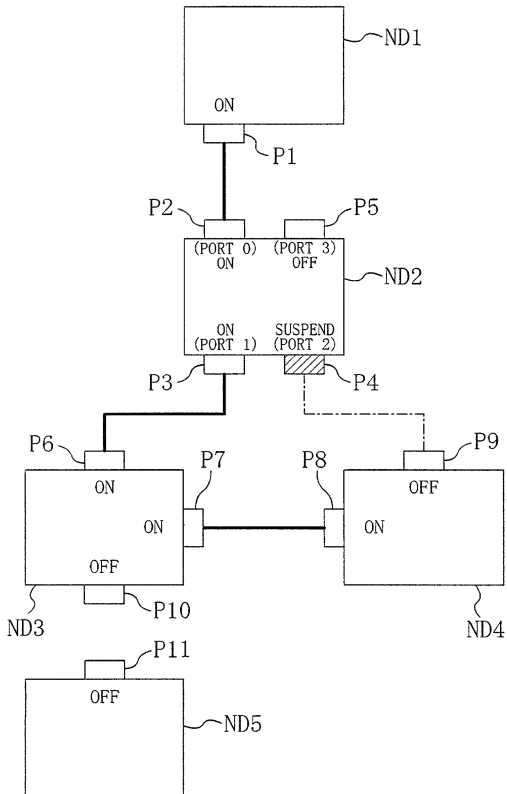


FIG. 20

